

THE HOMEBUYERS PLUMBING CHECKLIST

For most people, buying a house will be the biggest purchase they will ever make. It's stressful and is easy to miss some important things when inspecting, what could be, your new home. That last thing you need is unexpected plumbing expenses to make the enjoyment of buying a new home come crashing down.

THE FACTS

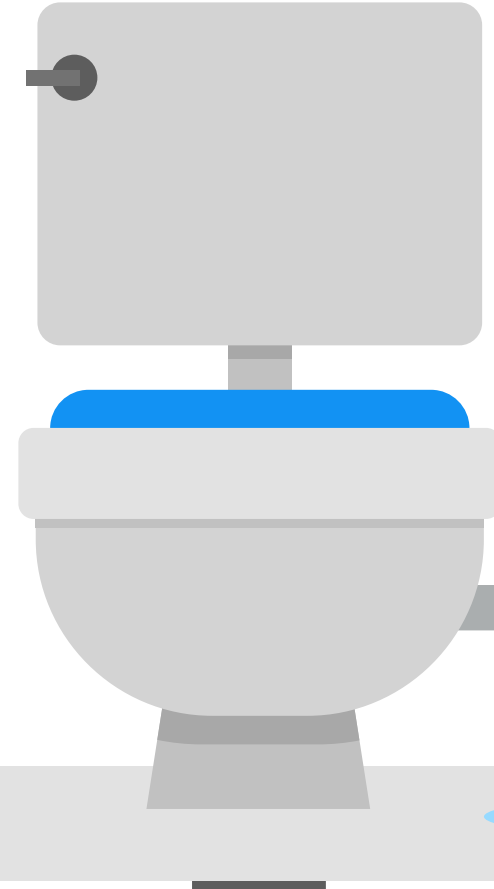


340 Litres

PER PERSON/PER DAY

While the exact number varies from area to area and season to season, the average daily water usage is around 340 litres per person or 900 litres per household.

MORE THAN
25%
the average daily water used comes from flushing the toilet



AROUND
14%
is caused by leaking pipes

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

A lot of the time even someone with no plumbing experience at all can identify potential problems with a home plumbing system. You just need to know what to look for.



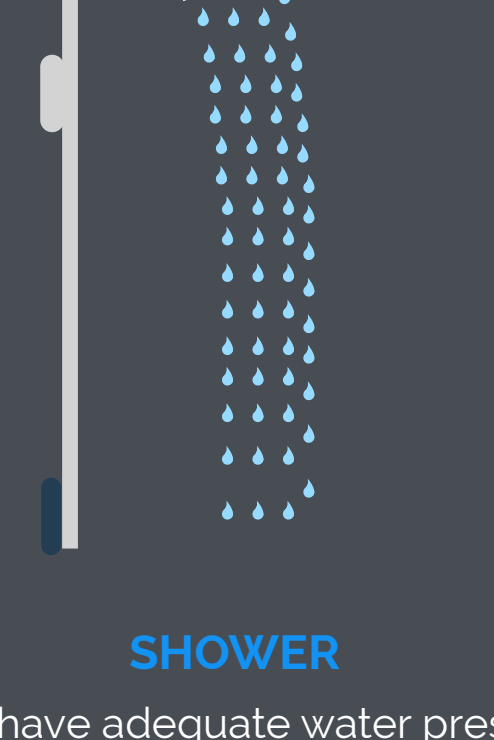
TOILETS

Flush every toilet in the house. While it is flushing make sure that it drains properly and that there is no visible leakage. If you have the opportunity, you can also remove the top of the cistern to see whether the inner working appear in good condition.



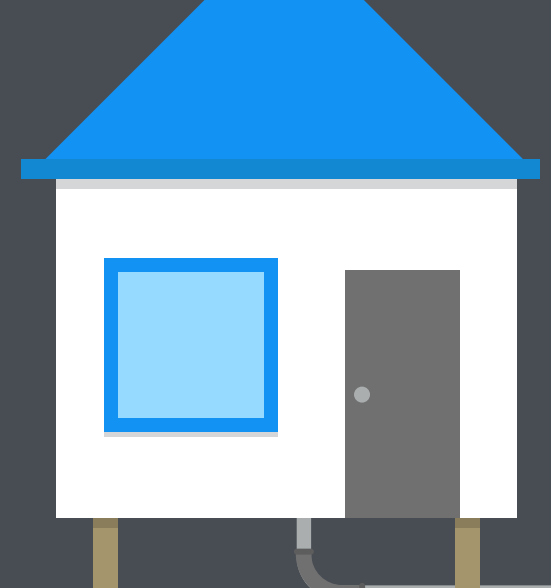
HOT WATER SYSTEM

Find the home hot water system and look it over for signs of corrosion. Using the outlet on the side, run some water and ensure that hot water comes out. If possible, ask the current owner of the house when the hot water system was last serviced.



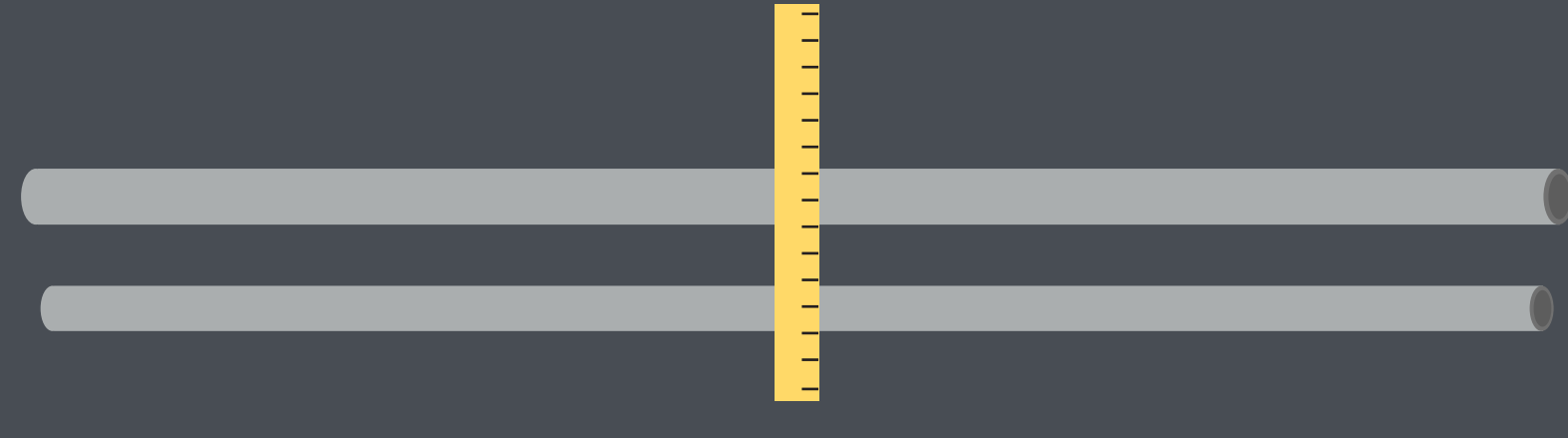
SHOWER

Run all showers to ensure that they have adequate water pressure. Low pressure can be a good indicator of a larger issue such as an unseen leak or clog. While you are there, make sure that all water drains freely and that no water is leaking from the fixtures.



UNDER THE HOUSE

It's not a pleasant job, but it is important to get underneath the house to check for signs of leaks or water damage. Since the majority of a houses plumbing is located underneath the house, doing this will allow you to catch any plumbing issues that you might have missed in your initial inspections.



PIPE SIZE

Size really does matter! OK, maybe not length, but definitely girth. Check that your prospective new home has pipes of the correct size installed. If the pipes are too small, the water pressure will be lower and could increase the potential for damage in the future. In most cases, you will want the pipes to be 3/4" from the source of water to the home, and 1/2" or larger from sinks and taps.



DRAINS AND SINKS

Check for obvious signs of overflowing water at overflow gullies, surcharging or gurgling and smells from the drains which would indicate a potential blockage or problem with drain pipes.

CHECKLIST

- TOILETS
- WATER HEATER
- SHOWER
- UNDER THE HOUSE
- PIPE SIZE
- DRAINS & SINKS

Infographic provided by:



**Gold Coast
Plumbing Company**

goldcoastplumbingcompany.com.au